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STELCO CANADA LIMITED

199 Ashtonbee Road,
Scarborough, Ont.
Phone: Plymouth 9-4407

August 21st, 1963.

The Ontario Commission on Taxation,
88 University Avenue,
Toronto 1, Ontario.

Attn: Mr. Hugh R. Hanson

Dear Sir:

As an individual taxpayer and as Secretary of a small company I respectfully submit the following personal observations for consideration by the Committee.

1. Could there be some tax relief on Life Assurance premiums? This would encourage savings and help the lower income group to provide for their families.

2. Mortgage interest should, it seems, earn some relief forthe mortgagor. Again the benefit would be in the early years of married life when it is needed most.

3. As an offset to the loss of revenue, it should be possible to increase the scale of rates very slightly in the higher income brackets.

4. I feel that there should be some liaison between the Federal Tax Department and that of the Province. As a company official, I find it a great nuisance to have to pass on to the Provincial Government details of tax assessments made by the Federal Government.

5. It is common knowledge that the rules of equity do not apply to Income Tax and that that act has many inequitable facets. Also one has to be an expert in the field of taxation to be able to walk through the maze of legislation which has grown up, without making some mistake.

It would certainly help a lot of ulcers if the tax officials would at times be more understanding of the difficulties of the taxpayer and not "hide behind the Act". To the man-in-the-street the phrase "That's what the Act says" can be like a red rag to a bullespecially if he has suffered some penalty for an offence under the Act of which he was not aware.

6. I would have thought that there would be closer liaison between the Tax Departments and the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants with the latter being highly regarded by the Tax Department.

Yours very truly,

William Smith,
Secretary.

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